

**DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND PETITION**

As the below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated immediately below next to my name;

Full name of first inventor: Michael Cuppy

Residence (City/State): Burnsville, Minnesota

Mailing Address: 13805 Frontier Lane  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337

Citizenship: USA

I believe I am an original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **Vascular Access Device and Method of Using Same**, the specification of which is attached hereto;

I state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to herein;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a), including any public use, sale, or offer for sale of the disclosed invention occurring more than one year prior to the filing date of said prior application.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 or §365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed pursuant to §119 (a) or of any provisional patent application(s) listed pursuant to §119(e) and have identified any such application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**Application Serial No. 60/454,093, filed March 11, 2003**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph

of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: none

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint, jointly and severally, John F. Klos, Registration No. 37,162; Aleya R. Champlin, Registration No. 36,251; and Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., 80 South Eighth Street, Suite 2100, Minneapolis, MN 55402-2112, my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith and the general power of attorney to file and prosecute any foreign or International (PCT) application claiming the benefit of priority of this application, or any continuation, continuation-in-part, divisional, reexamination, or reissue thereof.

All communications shall be addressed to:

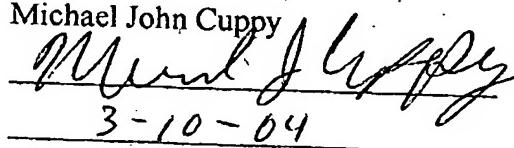
John F. Klos  
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Telephone: (612) 321-2806

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the above-referenced specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to said specification and claims and to the foregoing declaration, power of attorney, and this petition.

Full name of inventor:

Michael John Cuppy

Inventor's signature:

  
3-10-04

Date: